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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s) : Mitsuyuki HATANAKA et al.  
Serial no. : 09/975,827  
For : INFORMATION PROCESSING APPARATUS AND  
METHOD, AND PROGRAM STORING MEDIUM  
Filed : October 11, 2001  
Examiner : Monplaisir G. Hamilton  
Art Unit : 2135

745 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10151

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Date of Deposit: July 26, 2004

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: **Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

Charles T. Jackson

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**AUG 03 2004**

**Technology Center 2100**

**AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 25, 2004, please amend the above-referenced application as follows: